St. Vincent's Bulletin

The Order of St. Vincent for Acolytes

Founded St. Vincent's Day—January 22, 1915

Affiliated with the Scottish Guild of Servers and
The British Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary

HEADQUARTERS — WASHINGTON, D. C.
1215 Massachusetts Avenue N. W. Washington, 5, D. C.
Acting Secretary-General, The Rev'd. Lindsay O. Duvall
Director-General, The Rev'd. Harry S. Ruth, 311 East Broad Street, Burlington, N. J.

No. 32. TRINITYTIDE 1952

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Honorary Chaplain General—The Rt. Rev'd. Charles Francis Boynton, S. T. D. Suffragan Bishop of New York.
Director General—The Rev'd. Harry S. Ruth, Rector of St. Barnabas Church, Burlington, New Jersey.
The Rev'd. Albert J. du Bois, Executive Secretary of the American Church Union, New York, N. Y.
The Rev'd. Harold F. Lemoine, Rector of St. Joseph's Church, Queens Village, Long Island, N. Y.
The Rev'd. S. Whitney Hale, Rector of the Church of the Advent, Boston, Mass.
The Rev'd. Henry C. Beck, Rector of Calvary Church, Flemington, N. J.
Mr. Harold C. Barlow (St. Thomas' Parish) Mamaroneck, N. Y.
Mr. George E. Garlick (St. Mary the Virgin Parish) New York, N. Y.
Mr. Frederick Cooper (St. Clement's Parish, Phila., Pa.) Narberth, Pa.
Mr. Milton Coleman, Syracure, N. Y.
Mr. Kempton Dunn, Darien, Conn.

BRIEF NOTES ON THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING, FEBRUARY 12, 1952

Resignations accepted with regret. Mr. Walter W. Gaskill, of the Advent Parish, Boston, for many years an active councillor, unable to attend meetings, asked to be relieved. Mr. Walter Coleman of St. John's Parish, Flushing, L. I., N. Y. because of extraordinary business pressures. Mr. Clifford M. Swan, sometime Secretary and Treasurer, died August 7th, 1951. R. I. P. Messrs, Cooper, Milton Coleman, and Dunn, all active members of the Order were elected.

PROPOSED CHANGES. THE ORDER AND THE GUILD OF SERVERS

The majority reaction from Chapters to the general changes was favorable. The tentative plans anticipate two groups, THE ORDER and THE GUILD OF SERVERS. THE GUILD OF SERVERS will be dedicated to Saints Peter and John, (the first servers); have its own medal; and probably lapel insignia. The Guild will include all servers, confirmed or not confirmed, up to and including those who have reached their fourteenth year. A Manual with rules, etc. will be compiled suitable for the Guild along general parochial lines. At the age of fourteen, a confirmed server, may become a PROBATIONER of the ORDER. He must serve one full year as such, and prove that he can keep the rules of the Order. At the age of fifteen or older he may be admitted as an Acolyte into the Order, and he must keep the rules faithfully. There will be a bulletin for the Guild, and we hope a quarterly magazine for the Order. Until the proposed changes become effective, all affiliations will continue on the basis of the present Manual of the Order. (The Director General welcomes comments from the Clergy and members of Chapters on these proposed changes).

ASSISTANTS TO THE COUNCIL

The membership of the Council must be of those near a certain centre to attend meetings. The Scottish and British Guilds have regional lay guardians or counsellors to assist the Council. A review was made of OSV assistance over the years, including Diocesan Chaplains and Chapters. The Washington, D. C. and Dallas Diocesan Chapters only have survived. The Order, being represented on the Council of the American Church Union which is successfully establishing regional outposts, was advised to follow the results of the ACU plan, and if advisable find clergy and laity at such regional centres to represent the OSV Council.

STANDING COMMITTEES

The Order is now printing and selling large quantities of liturgical booklets and tracts, and the sales are by no means limited to the membership of the Order. There is an increasing demand for booklets "out of print" in England, which printed by the Order would further our work. Lacking certain tracts, we must frequently refer to Roman printings. The Council was urged to consider a Liturgical Committee, and any other committees furthering its work and influence.

AFFILIATED GUILDS

The Order is constantly in contact with both the Scottish and British Guilds, and exchange printings. The English Guild of the Servers of the Sanctuary is the larger of the two with more than six thousand reporting and dues paying members. It has an adult membership, and its liturgical maturity is reflected in both their excellent quarterly THE SERVER, and its representation on an influential Church defense council. The Scottish Guild is very much like the OSV in a small country where the Episcopalians are in the minority, but as a Church, are more uniform than here. The membership is largely adult, and like the British Guild, this adult membership makes the Guild Office a reality and a spiritual force. Our own OSV is decidedly weak in that respect. We have been communicating with the representatives of Canadian guilds which are planning a National Canadian Guild. Several Canadian Chapters are affiliated with the OSV.

ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS FOR HOLY ORDERS

Both the Scottish and English Guilds collect large sums to assist students. The OSV Endowment Fund was established primarily for that purpose. Over the years it has largely been invested in long term maturing U. S. Government Bonds. Only a small portion is now in fluid interest paying bonds. It totals about $1,800.00 There are many inquiries for assistance during the year. The Council discussed the matter hoping to increase this assistance to student members of the Order.

MEMBERSHIP

Supplementing the figures reported in February, the Acting Secretary General on May 15th reported that 239 of our 1029 Chapters only reported and paid dues. Chapters reported and paid dues for 3051. The Secretary General's Chapters of individuals included 101 others. There are hundreds of St. Vincent Chapters throughout the Church continuing as parochial units without interest in the Order, and unfortunately, by their parochialism preventing the Order's greater influence, and adding extra work to the Director General, and the part time paid Acting Secretary General. Reaffiliating, they would greatly increase the income of the Order, and advance its work, and help swell funds for theological students.

THE SILVER TEN YEAR MEDAL AWARD

The Council approved the award to twelve who had made proper application. Both the Director General and the Acting Secretary General rehearsed the problems attending the awards. (This award will be discussed in a special article).

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1951

INCOME

Dues	$ 743.34
Medals	474.12
Postage	72.27
Credit	77.37
Money gifts	43.58
To Endowment Fund	44.75
Sale of Printings:	
The Servers Guide	780.20
The Manual	123.88
Tracts No. 1 to No. 10	282.68
Altar Cards	58.28
Charters	11.25
All other printings	35.45
TOTAL RECEIPTS	$2,747.15
Balance 1950	1,677.39
Total for Year	$4,424.54

The salary of the Acting Secretary Treasurer was advanced $300 to $1800.

EXPENDITURES

Salary of Acting Secretary	$1,580.00
Postage	185.18
Cost of Printing	707.85
Transferred to Endowment Fd.	39.75
Bronze Medals	385.26
Stationery	9.19
Miscellaneous	12.57
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$2,910.80
Balance Dec. 31st, 1951	1,491.64
Debit	13.10
Grand Total	$4,424.64
The Endowment Fund	
In U. S. Bonds	$1,700.00
Cash on hand	89.48

The Order continues to use part of the Undercroft of the Church of the Ascension and St. Agnes' in Washington by courtesy of the Rector and Vestry. Without charge.

THE TEN YEAR SILVER MEDAL AWARD

Hours of correspondence and extraordinary work by both the Director General and Acting Secretary General, and often "hurt feelings" as a result of failing to read and understand the rules. During the earlier days of the Order the silver medal was awarded to faithful members who had completed 25 years serving. In recent years to stimulate faithful continuous membership in the Order the silver medal was "risked" to the faithful keeping of Chaplains and Chapters for those who would prove the following:

(1) By the record on the back of the membership card, or by the records of the Order that one has been at least ten years a member of the Order, and for ten complete years has been reported annually and paid dues over those years.

(2) Application for the medals must be made in November to allow verification, and ordering from the medallist the number required.

(3) The medal to be awarded on St. Vincent's Day or during the Octave.

(4) The medal to remain property of the Chapter, and worn only as an Acolyte when serving, as a Priest wears his vestments when officiating. It is a recognition, not a gift.

The object of the silver medal. To stimulate continuous membership in the Order; to arouse the individual in making certain he is reported yearly to the Order and his dues are paid; to permit the Order recognize his faithfulness as a member.

The awarding to be on St. Vincent's Day, or within the Octave, for the obvious reason that he is our Patron and example, thus reducing sentimentality. Also with the understanding that the medal is property of the Chapter.

Medals have been refused because applications stated ten years (even less) as servers, but not as members of the Order. Also because the records of the Order were contrary to claims.

The Council at the Annual Meeting confirmed the rules urging Chapters to keep better records, and individuals to make certain they are annually reported.

A SUGGESTION FOR BETTER RECORDS

Clergy and Chapter officers are constantly changing. Essential records should be kept in a place accessible at all times. Those who have a small board in the sacristy keep good records placing thereon a sheet headed as follows:

DATE BEGAN TO SERVE. ADMITTED PROBATIONER. NAME. ADMITTED INTO ORDER. NOTES — Withdrawals, etc. This record will aid in checking the color scheme of medal cords if a Chapter designates the years of serving in that manner. It will assist in making up annual reports.

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL here pleads for relief for the Acting Secretary General and himself. This Bulletin has been designed and sent out early in the Summer to stimulate planning for the Fall and Winter requesting Chapter officers to check supplies now, and order applications, manuals, guides, tracts, etc. early, and to avoid flooding with mail requiring attention at Christmastime (and during the later part of Lent). Further, avoid "rush orders". Plan effectively. Keep the price list of the Order and pay cash. Be prompt paying bills. The ASG is required to waste much time every year constantly sending out bills. That costs money too. Frequently, overdue bills cannot be collected, and there are too many of them at present. We sell OSV printings cheap hoping they will be purchased and the bills paid promptly.

We have received a few suggestions about the contents of THE BULLETIN. We regret we cannot follow most of them. The Order has printed tracts covering most of the subjects suggested, and our Church Book Stores are awaiting customers to buy tracts and books which should be used at training meetings of every Chapter. The Bulletin is not a substitute for the work that should be done in person by instruction within a Chapter. This Bulletin will carry an unusually long list of printings and several of them are included because they contain information which is not available, or as cheap, in our own Church Book Stores, but those stores would search for and order them.

HINTS TO ACOLYTES AND SERVERS Sent to the Bulletin from Various Chapters

Suggested improvements. Quiet in the sacristy . . . Be on time, at least ten minutes before a service, and pray before it . . . Don't rush out after serving. Take time to thank God . . . Don't play with candle grease . . . Practice ringing the sanctus bell and ring it properly . . . Lift the missal stand off the Altar, don't slide it off and dirty the linen or pull off the fair linen . . . Practice holding the Book of the Gospels so the Priest can easily read it . . . Learn to snuff out candles to prevent grease dripping on the Altar linen . . . If you are to hold a candle at the Gospel hold it so that it and not your back only can be seen by the congregation . . . Practice all marching, all processions, especially the short ones like that at the Gospel. Why wait until you get into the military service to do it right . . . Show up for serving on days when there is no school. Show your interest by doing some extra serving . . . Thrill your Priest by serving on a cold, dark morning when you were not expected

. . . Also by asking if there is anything you can do . . . Be a repeater on the Sundays you are scheduled at an early service, and hurry back to the late service . . . Be enthusiastic and find out when the extraordinary services are to be held and when you would help make the procession around the Church a grander witness to God . . . Plan to attend more services rather than the minimum . . . Think of yourself as a missionary when you serve, and the good it is doing others as well as pleasing God . . . You high school servers get into the Church School, and by your attendance encourage others . . . The Church doesn't take a vacation during the summer, so you should attend it wherever you are, and a long walk to a distant Church will do you a lot of good everyway . . . Why does it take so long for some fellows to make their confessions? If they can't remember their sins why don't they write them on paper? Some of us wait long for our turn . . . I heard a Priest say that "he was a spiritual person" and why and it caused me to ask if I were one . . . How is it that some servers can remember all the football and party dates and can't remember their serving dates even if they are notified in person and by postcard? . . . Why do some servers always come late to Church School? They wouldn't be late for a swim at the beach . . . Why do some servers use a book or card for the preparation at the foot of the Altar? Why can't or don't they memorize it? . . . Why don't some servers learn to light candles properly, and learn not to waste tapers? . . . Why don't some servers learn, by practicing, how to hold their hands and a candlestick or torch? Have you talked to other boys about serving, and gone to their home to bring them to Church? Do you turn in your weekly envelope every Sunday even if you serve? Suppose an Angel came at night, and took a server to Church and made him rub out the candle grease he carelessly spilled on the carpet, rugs, or floor? Somebody has to work it out.

ACOLYTES INTO THE PRIESTHOOD

Almost every year Fr. Beesley, Rector of the Good Shepherd Parish, Wichita, Texas, announces that another Acolyte is leaving to prepare for Holy Orders. The writer has lost count, but he does remember the ninth a few years ago. Mr. Joe Gugenheim has long been the Warden there . . . The N. Y. Times reported that George D. Young, Jr. of Trinity Chapter, St. Augustine, Florida, won a reading prize in the General Theological Seminary . . . The Acolytes of Christ Church, Bordentown, N. J. mimeograph their own bulletin called "The Aco-Light", and sometimes it runs into several pages full of instruction and personal notes about members at college and in the military service . . . Fr. Reed of St. Matthew's, Sunbury, Pa., mimeographs a small book almost monthly, and gives the Acolytes considerable space. He has a very clever system of credits and demerits which accumulate during the year and determine which Acolytes go here and there as special rewards. And he gets them out of bed very early several mornings each week, and particularly on Thursday when the service is at 6:00 a. m. . . . The custodian of St. Martin's Retreat House in Bernardsville, N. J. questions why Acolytes do not make more use of the House for retreats and quiet days . . . The Jan.-Mar. Intercession Paper of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday carried this intercession, "For reverence towards the Presence of our Lord by all who come close to the tabernacle, priests, acolytes, sacristans, and altar guild members" . . . They pray for you, you answer the prayers . . . Raymond A. St. Cyr, of Trinity Chapter, Los Angeles, California, received the gold plated medal for twenty continuous years as a member of the Order . . . Again, the huge Church of St. Mary the Virgin, New York City, was packed, and standing room only, at the annual Acolyte Festival. Our own Chaplain General, Bishop Boynton, pontificated and gave the charge instead of a sermon . . . We heard of another great gathering. It was in a very small Church, and there were only eight Acolytes present, but a Priest lead them all day in a retreat. The Church is in an isolated place, and the servers came long distances to spend the day with our Lord . . . The recurring lists of those being ordained include several former members of the Order. Fr. Stuart G. Ruth, of Hailey, Idaho, served faithfully while at Brown University in St. Stephen's, Providence, R. I. Fr. Thomas P. Logan of Polson, Montana, assisted Fr. Beck, now a member of the Council, when the latter was Secretary General of the Order. Few may know that Fr. Beck was formerly a city editor of a metropolitan newspaper, and the author of several books, particularly those on "The Lost Towns of New Jersey." . . . The whole Church on earth has lost the personal power of a great liturgical scholar in the death, on May 11th, of Dom Gregory Dix, Order of St. Benedict. Twelve times he re-wrote the 765 page "Shape of the Liturgy" which is one of the best answers to the many questions how this and that came about, and why this and that is done . . . Lucien D. Lindsay of Holy Cross Chapter, Dallas, Texas, a postulant for Orders, broadcasts over Radio Station KICA . . . A Chapter in Crownsville, Maryland was affiliated through the influence of an unknown soldier-Acolyte in Korea . . . Visiting Acolytes, especially those in military service report that they are never asked to assist or serve, even after showing their membership cards . . . One Priest writes that his servers do resent asking them to make way for a visiting Acolyte . . . Our warning to military Acolytes to be on guard against the

use of the "Ecumenical — Protestant Communion Service and Prayer Book" has been effective. Fortunately, wishing to attend Divine Service, and to share the fellowship, they have learned also how to make a "spiritual Communion" without compromising their Church . . . Occasionally a Priest notifies us that the Chapter is dormant because the admitted members will not keep the rules, especially the minimum monthly Communion rule.

SILVER MEDALS AWARDED

California—Palo Alto—Secretary General Chapter, J. Edwin Lee.
Canal Zone—La Boca, St. Peter's—Llewelyn C. Smith, Victor T. Smith, Charles M. Innis and Arthur L. Riney who have served twenty five years.
Connecticut—Bridgeport—St. Johns—Joseph Coulter, Kenneth Thomas and Earl Williams.
D. C.—Washington—St. Paul's—William C. Cooper.
Indiana—Indianapolis—Christ Church—William C. Stone.
Kentucky—Louisville—The Advent—James Everett Beswick.
New York—New York—Holyrood Church—Nelson N. Chowenhill, Jr.

LIVING WITH THE CHURCH YEAR

Trinity Sunday brings the second cycle of the Church Year (beginning at Easter) to a close. (The first was the Christmas cycle). So the third cycle is known as the Trinity season, and ending before Advent it symbolizes man's pilgrimage on earth until the second coming of Christ in Judgment. The purpose is to stimulate within us the imitation of Christ, and to make us very conscious of eternal life. We see the Holy Spirit working in the Church and in individual souls reminding us of the theological virtue hope, so that is why green is the prevailing color, because that is the symbol of hope.

Many centuries were necessary to work out our present Sunday propers. Over a long period the Sundays were arranged in groups attached to special saints, but since the 14th century when Trinity Sunday was declared, the present sequence has been the rule. You probably know that the Roman Church continues the Sunday after Pentecost, and here and there we are one Sunday behind them using the same propers. Some of the treasures of the Church are in several of the Collects during this season. The Preface of the Holy Trinity is said on Sundays to emphasize the period. The work of developing the proper for all the Sundays has never been completed, and towards the end the proper for Sundays after the Epiphany must be used to complete a long Trinity season. You can't avoid hearing of Corpus Christi which occurs on the first Thursday after the Octave of Pentecost and Trinity Sunday. Our Lord instituted the Blessed Sacrament on Maundy Thursday, in Holy Week, and at that time the Passion of our Lord dominated our minds. So that we may more festively thank God for the Blessed Sacrament, and knowing that the Holy Ghost illuminated the Apostles and Disciples with knowledge of this wondrous mystery, the Feast of Corpus Christi with an octave is kept.

NEW PRINTING

Card 5½ by 9½ one side Approach to the Altar. Priest and Server preparation. Confiteor—"I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven" . . . Reverse side Thanksgiving After Communion. The longer office used by generations. 10 cents per copy, postpaid.

"Let our priests demand a high standard of worship and a good knowledge of prayer from men before they are admitted as servers. Let our priests take their servers and teach them, individually and collectively, something about the science of prayer and its fulfillment in the Mass. The men will respond. Our men can be magnificant; but that magnificance must be called out, or it will become atrophied and die."

The Rev'd. Ralph H. LeMessurier, from "The Inner Circle"

A Prayer, the students of Racine College, Racine, Wisconsin, requested the Warden, the Rev'd. James DeKoven, D. D. (Died 1879) to offer before games. O God, who hast promised that the holy city Jerusalem shall be full of children playing in the streets thereof, and hast said that the glory of young men is their strength; have mercy on all the students of this college, and give them thy sure protection; as in their prayers and studies, so in all their sports and exercises. Make them chaste and strong; brave and gentle, pure and obedient; that, bringing their bodies into subjection and struggling manfully for the mastery, with thy Holy Angels to shield them, they may attain not only earthly rewards, but also eternal blessedness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessed Sacrament. Jesus did not request us to eat and drink. He demanded. Ergo, not to do so is rebellion, and failure to share His Personality sacramentally.

Publications of The Order of St. Vincent

(Order from the Order of S. Vincent, 1215 Massachusetts Ave. N. W. Washington 5 D. C.)
(Add 10% for Postage on All Orders)

The Manual — Containing the objects, rules, constitution, offices 10c
The Servers Guide—A Guide directing the server at the Holy Eucharist and with all the secreta—Illustrated 25c
Tract 1—Who was St. Vincent? Why Patron? Why the Order Founded? Objects and Rules. What Acolyte means 2c
Tract 2—Candles. How to light and extinguish them, etc. 3c
Tract 3—The Crucifer. How to carry the cross. Picture 4c
Tract 4—Processions. The Litany Procession, etc. 4c
Tract 5—Acolyte Manners. General instructions, candle lighting, etc. 5c
Tract 6—Vestments. Ornaments, etc. 15c
Tract 7—The Thurifer. All directions for all services when incense is used 15c
Tract 8—Incense. Reprint from Tract 7 ..... 3c
Tract 9—St. Vincent. All that is known about him 4c
Tract 10—A Suggestive Rule of Life 3c
Preparation Card for Priest and Server. (Thanksgiving Office on back) 10c
Card—Prayers used by Priest while vesting 1c
Card—Objects, Rules, Prayers of the Order 1c
A Palm Sunday Blessing of Palm, entire service 3c
Altar Cards—three, in blue and white, centre one 9x12 containing the secreta; two 9x4 the Last Gospel, and the devotions for the mixing of the chalice and washing of Priest's hands ..... 75c plus postage
Procession Hymn Card—26 verse hymn "Jerusalem, my Happy Home" with two hymns of thanksgiving 3c
Card—Proper for St. Vincent's Day (from The Manual) 3c
Card—Admission of a Probationer (from The Manual) 3c
The O.S.V. Office (from The Manual) 5c
The Admission Office (from The Manual) 5c
Picture—Proper Way to Carry the Cross 1c
Liturgical Notes—Advent to Lent .. 2c
Lent to Corpus Christi 5c

OTHER PUBLICATIONS RECOMMENDED WHICH SHOULD BE ORDERED THROUGH YOUR OWN BOOK STORE

(Prices Subject to Change)

The Ritual Reason Why — Walker (Questions and Answers) $1.05
Ceremonies of Holy Church — Caudwell (A simple but fuller explanation of contents of the Ritual Reason Why) $1.05
Outline of Symbolism—Wilson (Also other Outline books) 40c
The Priest and His Servers — Le Messurier 40c
The Congregation in Church (Notes on Ceremonial, etc.) $1.05
The Church's Year—Alexander (Anglican Festivals and Saints) $2.00

English Liturgical Books. *indicates price in England

Ritual Notes (Anglican Ceremonial Directions) ..... $4.75 — *$3.00
Liturgy and Worship (Companion to Prayer Book) ..... $4.25 — *$2.14
The Shape of the Liturgy — Gregory Dix ..... $14.00 — *6.42

Roman books from any Roman Book Store

For the Sacristan. In Sacristy and Sanctuary — O'Brien $2.25
Liturgical Catechism — MacMahon $1.50
The Catholic Picture Dictionary — Pfeiffer $1.00
The Secretary of Publications, S. S. J. E., 980 Memorial Drive, Cambridge 38, Mass. issues a catalog of many liturgical and devotional aids, especially:
The Proper of the Day — Introit, Gradual, etc for congregations 20c
The American Holy Week Manual ..... paper $1.00 — cloth $2.00
Tenebrae (from the Manual) for congregational use 35c
The Holy Cross Press, West Park, N. Y. offers many tracts; also St. Augustine's Prayer Book (devotions for the year) $1.50
Looking towards the Priesthood. Have you a vocation? A Priest in the Making — Neate 50c
For High School Boys Only! 10c — Also Journey to Priesthood 75c
both from the Rev. W. C. R. Sheridan, 400N. Centre St., Plymouth, Indiana
THE ORDO KALENDAR (Fr. Ruth, Editor) showing in colors the proper for the day with notes — The Ashby Co., Erie, Pa.) 45c

Failing to make contact with a bookstore write to the Morehouse-Gorham Co., 14 E. 41st St., New York 17, N. Y., or 29 E. Madison St., Room 1814, Chicago, Ill., or 83 McAllister St., San Francisco, California.

* Books above from England. Ian Michell, 29 Lower Brook St., Ipswich, England. Send for list. Payments by International Money order or Check 7c extra.